For Immediate Release: September 16, 2010

Washington D.C. -- Congressman Duncan Hunter is encouraging individuals involuntarily retained in the military under the "Stop Loss" program, between September 11, 2001, and September 30, 2009, to submit an application for retroactive pay before the October 21st deadline. Veterans and current servicemembers, as well as the survivors of servicemembers who were retained, are eligible to receive a retroactive payment of \$500 for each month of extension.

"America's military men and women have faithfully served the U.S. combat mission in Iraq and Afghanistan, while their families have sacrificed at home," said Congressman Hunter. "In some cases, servicemembers were involuntarily retained over the course of these operations, making them eligible for special pay. These men and women earned this compensation for their service. It's now important that those who are eligible submit an application before the approaching deadline.

"I would encourage anyone in the San Diego community with questions about this program or the application process to contact my El Cajon office." Congressman Hunter's local office can be reached at 619-448-5201.

To date, only 58,000 of 145,000 eligible claims have been paid. Information on the "Stop Loss" compensation program and links to the application are available at: www.defense.gov/stoploss